

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-11

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PASS LABOR FOR SEGALL AND AVERY

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: ILO, AORG

SUBJECT: ILO - GB COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

REF: GENEVA 1246

1. PF&A COMMITTEE CONCLUDED ITS DISCUSSION OF IN-DEPTH REVIEW OF STANDARDS, BY REFERRING SECTIONS III (EXCEPT PARAGRAPHS 14 AND 15) AND IV TO COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS, AND KEEPING REMAINDER IN PF&A, WITH ILO OFFICE TASKED TO PREPARE NEW DOCUMENT FOR MAY MEETING. U.S. REP POINTED OUT CERTAIN DISCREPANCIES BETWEEN COMMITTEE REPORT AND SUMMARY PREPARED BY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, REGARDING DESIRABILITY OF FLEXIBILITY VS UNIVERSALISM.

2. MEDIUM-TERM PLAN: EMPLOYERS SAID THEIR PRIORITIES WERE: SOLVING PROBLEMS OF MASS POVERTY; TRIPARTISM; RURAL DEVELOPMENT; AND TRAINING. PLANT (UK WORKER) OBJECTED STRONGLY TO ILO GETTING INVOLVED IN COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AS IT PERTAINED TO INFLATIONARY FACTORS, SAYING TRIPARTISM DOES NOT MEAN AUTHORITY TO INTERVENE IN INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS. WORKER PRIORITIES WERE HUMAN RIGHTS; TRIPARTISM; TRAINING; MASS POVERTY. CANADIAN GOVERNMENT REP DISAGREED WITH PLANT ON COLLECTIVE BARGAINING ON INFLATION SAYING THAT IS THIS ADMITTEDLY CONTROVERSIAL SUBJECT WAS NOT DISCUSSED  
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IN ILO IT WOULD BE DISCUSSED ELSEWHERE. USG REP EXPRESSED DIS-

APPOINTMENT IN DOCUMENT FOR ITS LACK OF FINANCIAL, STATISTICAL DATA AND TARGETS TO HELP MEASURE PROGRESS, AND OMISSION OF PHASING OUT

OF LOW PRIORITY PROGRAMS. HE EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR INCLUSION OF SECTIONS ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND TRIPARTISM BUT REGRETTED NO REFERENCE TO WORK OF CONFERENCE COMMITTEE IN TRIPARTITE MACHINERY AND THE ADOPTION OF INSTRUMENT(S). HE ASKED FOR MORE SUPPORT FOR INDUSTRIAL COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING POSSIBILITY OF STRENGTHENING BOTH PROGRAMS AND ILO OFFICE STAFF.

3. USSR REP ASKED AT WHAT POINT TRIPARTISM HAD BECOME A RELIGION TO BE SPREAD AS CHRISTIANITY HAD BEEN, BY FIRE AND SWORD. HE AGREED WITH CANADIAN REP, THAT IT WAS MERELY A METHOD, NOT AN OBJECTIVE. HE ADDED THAT EMPHASIS IN TRIPARTISM NOW IS JUST A PASSING FASHION AND THAT SINCE EMPLOYERS AND GOVERNMENTS ARE ALWAYS STRONGER THAN WORKERS, TRIPARTISM CAN'T SOLVE PROBLEMS. HE NOTED THAT CAPITALIST COUNTRIES ARE GOING THROUGH ONE OF THEIR REGULAR CYCLICAL CRISIS AND THAT UNEMPLOYMENT IS GROWING BOTH IN WESTERN AND IN THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES AS A RESULT. SINCE WEST HAS FAILED TO CONTROL UNEMPLOYMENT, ILO SHOULD NOW (RATHER THAN WAITING FOR WORLD EMPLOYMENT CONFERENCE) MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO SOLVE PROBLEM, BY ARRANGING CONVENTIONS GUARANTEEING RIGHT TO WORK AND ADEQUATE PAYMENTS WHILE UNEMPLOYED. HE NOTED THAT DEPENDENCE IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS NOW PROVIDED OPPORTUNITIES FOR COOPERATION IN THE ILO. THE HELSINKI CONFERENCE IN PARTICULAR MAKES POSSIBLE COOPERATION IN EUROPE, AND HE SUGGESTED SEVERAL IDEAS FOR ILO COOPERATION ON WORKING CONDITIONS IN EUROPE. AT END OF HIS REMARKS, CHAIRMAN STATED USSR REP SHOULD HAVE STUCK TO DOCUMENT BEFORE COMMITTEE INSTEAD OF INDULGING IN PHILOSOPHICAL COMMENTS.

4. HUNGARIAN GOVERNMENT REP SAID SOCIALIST COUNTRIES HAVE MADE PROGRESS IN SOLVING WORKERS' PROBLEMS AND ILO SHOULD USE THIS EXPERTISE. HUNGARY WOULD LIKE TO PLAY ROLE ON INDUSTRIAL ANALOGS COMMITTEE SINCE HUNGARY IS A STATE OF INDUSTRIAL IMPORTANCE. HE ALSO SAID TRIPARTISM CANNOT BE APPLIED MECHANICALLY IN ALL AREAS. WITH REGARD TO ILO'S ROLE IN HUMAN RIGHTS, HE SAID CHANGES ARE NEEDED IN SUPERVISORY MACHINERY SO THAT ALL REGIONS AND SYSTEMS ARE REPRESENTED. THIS WOULD HELP TO AVOID HAVING QUESTIONS RAISED BY CERTAIN PERSONS FOR SELFISH PURPOSES, WHICH INTERFERED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WITH COOPERATION.

5. THE POLISH GOVERNMENT REP SAID TRIPARTISM CANNOT BE BOTH AN OBJECTIVE AND A METHOD, AND HE FELT IT SHOULD NOT BE SEEN AS A DETERMINING FACTOR. HE NOTED THE LACK OF REGIONAL INSTRUMENTS WHICH LIMITED THE POSSIBILITY OF EXCHANGES BETWEEN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES. HE NOTED WORK DONE BY THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL BUT THIS COULD NOT REPLACE A EUROPEAN CONVENTION.

6. PAKISTAN GOVERNMENT REP SAID ILO SHOULD ISSUE GUIDELINES FOR COLLECTIVE BARGAINING IN INFLATIONARY SITUATIONS MEXICAN GOVERNMENT REP SAID FIRST PRIORITY SHOULD BE MASS POVERTY, FOLLOWING IDEALS OF CERDS AND NIEO TO REDISTRIBUTE INTERNATIONAL INCOME.

7. DG IN CLOSING REMARKS TOOK ISSUE WITH USSR AND SAID TRIPARTISM IS BOTH A METHOD AND AN OBJECTIVE, AND IS PREREQUISITE FOR SOUND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS. IT DOES NOT GROW SPONTANEOUSLY BUT HAS TO BE FOUGHT FOR, AND IT IS INCREASING IN MAY AREA, NOT JUST IN WESTERN COUNTRIES. HE SAID ILO MUST BE MORE ACTIVE IN HUMAN RIGHTS, WHICH ARE VITAL TO ILO.

8. IN-DEPTH REVIEW OF DECENTRALIZATION: BROWN (U.S. WORKER) SAID WORKERS GENERALLY SUPPORTED CONCLUSIONS OF REPORT BUT WITH RESERVATION THAT STANDARD-SETTING SHOULD BE BASED ON UNIVERSAL APPROACH TO AVOID FRAGMENTATION. DECENTRALIZED OFFICES SHOULD ACTIVELY PROMOTE TRIPARTISM, BY INFLUENCING HOST GOVERNMENTS AND PROVIDING EXPERTISE. GOVERNMENT REP OF SRI LANKA (SUPPORTED LATER BY JAPANESE GOVERNMENT REP) SAID ASIAN COUNTRIES HAD GREATER NEED FOR DECENTRALIZATION THAN OTHER AREAS, AND THAT REGIONAL CONFERENCES SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED NOT ONLY TO DISCUSS BUT TO BECOME DECISION-MAKING BODIES. USG REP SAID USG FAVORS DECENTRALIZATION BUT SKEPTICAL IT WILL BE EFFECTIVELY AND EFFICIENTLY IMPLEMENTED, NOTHING NUMEROUS PLACES IN DOCUMENT WHICH GIVE ILO HQ SUPERVISORY ROLE OVER AREA AND COUNTRY OFFICES INSTEAD OF DELEGATING RESPONSIBILITIES AT LEAST TO REGION IF NOT TO LOCAL OFFICE OR PROJECT MANAGER IN CASE OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE. HE AGREED WITH QUESTIONS RAISED BY WORKERS AND EMPLOYERS CONCERNING THE FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF DECENTRALIZATION, WHICH HAD NOT BEEN COVERED IN THE DOCUMENT.

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9. USSR GOVERNMENT REP FAVORED ADOPTING REGIONAL STANDARDS WHICH WOULD MAKE CONCESSIONS TO LOCAL CONDITIONS. HE ALSO SAID TRIPARTISM WAS BECOMING A DISEASE WHICH WAS BEING INTRODUCED EVERYWHERE IN ILO ACTIVITIES, AND WAS BEING GIVEN EXAGGERATED STRESS. HE SAID TRIPARTISM WOULD NOT FIT INTO EVERY ACTIVITY OF THE ILO AND EFFORTS TO INTRODUCE IT MADE ILO'S WORK MORE DIFFICULT. CANADIAN GOVERNMENT REP SAID TRIPARTISM IS ONLY A METHOD OR A MEANS TO AN END (I.E. IMPROVED WORKING CONDITIONS). MEXICAN GOVERNMENT REP REFERRED TO CHANGED WORLD CONDITIONS SINCE ILO WAS FOUNDED AND RECOMMENDED ELIMINATION OF NONELECTIVE SEATS ON GOVERNING BODY. HE ALSO MENTIONED POSSIBILITY OF REPLACING ILO WITH FEDERATION OF REGIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATIONS. DG BLANCHARD IN CLOSING REMARKS SAID TRIPARTISM WOULD BE KEPT AS FOUNDATION OF ILO ACTIVITIES IN THE FIELD. WITH REGARD TO FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF DECENTRALIZATION HE HAD ALREADY INSTRUCTED ILO OFFICE TO MAKE MAJOR EFFORT TO REDUCE ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS BELOW PRESENT RATE OF OVER 21 PERCENT, WHICH HE CONSIDERED TO BE FAR TOO HIGH.

10. IN-DEPTH REVIEW OF PUBLIC INFORMATION: COMMITTEE GENERALLY APPROVED DOCUMENT, NOTHING MANY WORKERS DO NOT KNOW WORK OF ILO, AND URGING AREA AND COUNTRY OFFICES TAKE INITIATIVES FOR TELLING THE STORY. SMITH (U.S. EMPLOYER) STRESSED IMPORTANCE OF HONESTY IN REPORTING, AND BROWN (US. WORKER) ALSO SAID ILO SHOULD DISCUSS HONESTLY AND FRANKLY ITS PROBLEMS, INCLUDING ISSUES RAISED

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IN LETTER OF INTENT. USSR GOVERNMENT REP SAID INFORMATION PROGRAM SHOULD INCLUDE HONEST DESCRIPTION OF PROBLEMS OF VARIOUS SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC SYSTEMS. MEXICAN GOVERNMENT REP SAID ILO INFORMATION PROGRAMS HAD BECOME DULL, BUT THAT FOLLOWING CONCEPTS OF NIEO WOULD REVITALIZE THEM. USG REP EXPRESSED GENERAL SUPPORT OF DOCUMENT'S PROPOSALS BUT ASKED FOR FINANCIAL AND PERSONNEL DATA FOR THOSE SECTIONS WHICH APPEARED TO REQUIRE INCREASED RESOURCES. CANADIAN GOVERNMENT REP SAID THAT IN RECENT MONTHS ILO HAD HIT FRONT PAGES OF CANADA AS CRISIS SITUATION, AND MORE EFFORT SHOULD BE MADE TO TELL POSITIVE ACHIEVEMENTS OF ILO. DG IN HIS CLOSING REMARKS SAID REFERENCE IN DOCUMENT TO RELATING INFORMATION PROGRAMS TO SOCIAL CONDITIONS MEANT LINKING PUBLIC RELATIONS EFFORTS TO ISSUES OF CURRENT INTEREST TO WORKERS, SUCH AS CURRENT SOCIAL SECURITY PROBLEMS FOR UNEMPLOYED. HE DISAGREED WITH THESIS OF USSR THAT PUBLIC RELATIONS WAS IDENTICAL WITH ILO TECHNICAL EFFORTS.

11. WORKING PARTY ON FINANCING DELEGATES' EXPENSES: GROUP ASKED

ILO OFFICE TO PROVIDE FOR NEXT SESSION OF WORKING PARTY (1) ESTIMATED COSTS OF VARIOUS PROPOSALS FOR FINANCING DELEGATES AND (2) COMPILATION OF ALL PROPOSALS MADE IN RECENT YEARS FOR REORGANIZING WORK OF CONFERENCE AND/OR COMMITTEES TO FACILITATE PARTICIPATION BY SMALL DELEGATIONS. USG REP EXPRESSED RESERVATIONS ABOUT IDEA OF FINANCING DELEGATIONS AND SAID FACT OF REQUEST FOR COSTS ESTIMATES IN NO WAY IMPLIED USG APPROVAL BY WORKING PARTY OF CONCEPT OF FINANCING THESE EXPENSES.

12. ALLOCATIONS COMMITTEE: COMMITTEE APPROVED PROPOSED ASSESSMENTS FOR SAUDI ARABIA AND AGREED TO DELAYED PAYMENTS BY DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, SUBJECT TO CLEAR UNDERSTANDING THAT ALL PAYMENTS MUST BE MADE EITHER IN SWISS FRANCS OR U.S. DOLLARS (NOT IN DOMINICAN PESOE AS PROPOSED BY DOMINICAN REPUBLIC).

13. INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE HELD AN IN-DEPTH DISCUSSION ON THE REPORT OF THE 9TH SESSION OF THE IRON AND STEEL COMMITTEE (1975). THE COMMITTEE ROUTINELY DISCUSSED THE REPORT ITSELF AND THE VARIOUS RESOLUTIONS. NO CONTROVERSY AROSE.

14. AMONG OTHERS, THE U.S. GOVERNMENT AND WORKERS REPRESENTATIVES USED THE OPPORTUNITY OF THE COMMITTEE'S DISCUSSION TO STRESS THE IMPORTANT ROLE OF INDUSTRIAL COMMITTEES IN THE ILO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AND TO STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT THE OFFICE REORDER ITS PRIORITIES TO STRENGTHEN THE STAFF SUPPORT FOR INDUSTRIAL COMMITTEES.

15. COMMENT: DISCUSSIONS ABOUT THE LATE DISTRIBUTION OF INDUSTRIAL COMMITTEE DOCUMENTS, FOR WHICH THE INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITIES BRANCH IS NOT FULLY RESPONSIBLE, SURFACED THE FACT THAT COAL MINE COMMITTEE DOCUMENTS FOR APRIL MEETING WILL BE VERY LATE.

16. COMMITTEE ON STANDING ORDERS AND THE APPLICATION OF CONVENTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS DISCUSSED REPORT ON THE PROPOSED STANDING ORDERS FOR THE WORLD EMPLOYMENT CONFERENCE WHICH REMAINED UNCHANGED. MAJOR FEATURES INCLUDE: A CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE WILL BE CONSTITUTED TO OVERSEE THE EXAMINATION OF CREDENTIALS; ALTHOUGH MINISTERS OF MEMBER STATES SHALL HAVE THE RIGHT TO ADDRESS THE CONFERENCE, ONLY A SUMMARY OF THE PROCEEDINGS WILL BE RECORDED; ALL SPEECHES WILL BE LIMITED TO 15 MINUTES (WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE WHERE THE TIME LIMIT WILL BE TEN MINUTES); AND THE STEERING COMMITTEE WILL DECIDE THE ISSUE OF THE RECEIVABILITY OF RESOLUTIONS.

17. EXTENDED DEBATE WAS HELD ON THE ISSUE OF WHICH BODY WOULD DECIDE ON THE RECEIVABILITY OF RESOLUTIONS. THE HUNGARIAN SUPPORTED BY USSR GOVERNMENT REP SOUGHT TO HAVE THE CONFERENCE ITSELF REVIEW ALL RESOLUTIONS AND DETERMINE THEIR APPLICABILITY. EMPLOYER AND WORKER SPOKESMAN OPPOSED PROPOSAL, AS DID USG REP.

AFTER PROTRACTED DEBATE THE HUNGARIAN PROPOSAL WAS WITHDRAWN.

18. OTHER ACTIONS TAKEN INCLUDED: 1) ACCEPTANCE OF A REPORT ON THE FORMS TO BE USED AS THE BASIS FOR THE ANNUAL REPORTS ON CONVENTIONS NO. 138 (MINIMUM AGE), NO. 139 (OCCUPATIONAL CANCER), AND NO. 140 (PAID EDUCATIONAL LEAVE) WHICH THE GOVERNMENTS OF RATIFYING STATES WILL BE REQUIRED TO SUBMIT BY VIRTUE OF ARTICLE 22 OF THE CONSTITUTION. 2) POSTPONEMENT UNTIL THE NOVEMBER GB OF POSSIBLE AMENDMENTS TO ARTICLE 18 OF THE STANDING ORDERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL LABOR CONVENTION. THE OFFICE WILL PREPARE PROPOSALS DESIGNED TO MAKE ARTICLE MORE OPERABLE AS AGREED TO BY EMPLOYER, WORKER AND USG REPRESENTATIVES. 3) ACCEPTANCE OF THE MODIFICATIONS OF THE RULES GOVERNING REGIONAL CONFERENCES. THE GOVERNMENT REPS OF CUBA, GUINEA, AND THE USSR SOUGHT TO ALTER PROPOSED LANGUAGE TO GIVE THE SELECTIONS COMMITTEE THE RIGHT TO DEAL, IN THE FIRST INSTANCE, WITH RESOLUTIONS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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NOT RELATING TO THE TECHNICAL AGENDA MATTERS BEFORE THE CONFERENCES. THEIR EFFORTS WERE UNSUCCESSFUL. MODIFICATION OUTLINED IN GP/SC/5/5 ADOPTED INTACT WITH RESERVATIONS BY ABOVE MEMBER STATES.

19. COMMENT: DOL AND OTHER REPS REGARD OVERALL RESULTS OF SESSIONS ABOUT THAT WHICH WAS EXPECTED. NO MAJOR SURPRISES. US-EE SKIRMISHES AVERAGE; THIRD WORLD MEMBERS QUIET BY AND LARGE EXCEPT GUINEA AND CUBA IN S.O. COMMITTEE. MEXICO, AS USUAL, VOCAL IN PF&A. DALE

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## Message Attributes

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